# Study guide: Finite difference methods for wave motion

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## Finite difference methods for waves on a string

Waves on a string can be modeled by the wave equation

$$\frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial t^2} = c^2 \frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial x^2}$$

u(x,t) is the displacement of the string Demo of waves on a string.

# The complete initial-boundary value problem

$$\frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial t^2} = c^2 \frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial x^2}, \qquad x \in (0, L), \ t \in (0, T]$$
 (1)

$$u(x,0) = I(x), x \in [0,L] (2)$$

$$\frac{\partial}{\partial t}u(x,0) = 0, x \in [0,L] (3)$$

$$u(0,t) = 0,$$
  $t \in (0,T]$  (4)

$$u(L,t) = 0, t \in (0,T] (5)$$

## Input data in the problem

- Initial condition u(x,0) = I(x): initial string shape
- Initial condition  $u_t(x,0) = 0$ : string starts from rest
- $c = \sqrt{T/\varrho}$ : velocity of waves on the string
- (T is the tension in the string,  $\varrho$  is density of the string)

- Two boundary conditions on u: u = 0 means fixed ends (no displacement)
- Rule for number of initial and boundary conditions:
  - $u_{tt}$  in the PDE: two initial conditions, on u and  $u_t$
  - $u_t$  (and no  $u_{tt}$ ) in the PDE: one initial conditions, on u
  - $u_{xx}$  in the PDE: one boundary condition on u at each boundary point

## Demo of a vibrating string (C = 0.8)

- Our numerical method is sometimes exact (!)
- Our numerical method is sometimes subject to serious non-physical effects

## Demo of a vibrating string (C = 1.0012)

Ooops!

#### Step 1: Discretizing the domain

Mesh in time:

$$0 = t_0 < t_1 < t_2 < \dots < t_{N_t - 1} < t_{N_t} = T$$
(6)

Mesh in space:

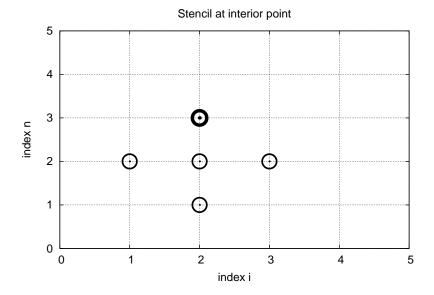
$$0 = x_0 < x_1 < x_2 < \dots < x_{N_x - 1} < x_{N_x} = L \tag{7}$$

Uniform mesh with constant mesh spacings  $\Delta t$  and  $\Delta x$ :

$$x_i = i\Delta x, \ i = 0, \dots, N_x, \quad t_i = n\Delta t, \ n = 0, \dots, N_t$$
 (8)

#### The discrete solution

- The numerical solution is a mesh function:  $u_i^n \approx u_e(x_i, t_n)$
- $\bullet$  Finite difference stencil (or scheme): equation for  $u_i^n$  involving neighboring space-time points



## Step 2: Fulfilling the equation at the mesh points

Let the PDE be satisfied at all *interior* mesh points:

$$\frac{\partial^2}{\partial t^2} u(x_i, t_n) = c^2 \frac{\partial^2}{\partial x^2} u(x_i, t_n), \tag{9}$$

for  $i = 1, ..., N_x - 1$  and  $n = 1, ..., N_t - 1$ .

For n = 0 we have the initial conditions u = I(x) and  $u_t = 0$ , and at the boundaries  $i = 0, N_x$  we have the boundary condition u = 0.

## Step 3: Replacing derivatives by finite differences

Widely used finite difference formula for the second-order derivative:

$$\frac{\partial^2}{\partial t^2} u(x_i, t_n) \approx \frac{u_i^{n+1} - 2u_i^n + u_i^{n-1}}{\Delta t^2} = [D_t D_t u]_i^n$$

and

$$\frac{\partial^{2}}{\partial x^{2}}u(x_{i},t_{n}) \approx \frac{u_{i+1}^{n} - 2u_{i}^{n} + u_{i-1}^{n}}{\Delta x^{2}} = [D_{x}D_{x}u]_{i}^{n}$$

#### Step 3: Algebraic version of the PDE

Replace derivatives by differences:

$$\frac{u_i^{n+1} - 2u_i^n + u_i^{n-1}}{\Delta t^2} = c^2 \frac{u_{i+1}^n - 2u_i^n + u_{i-1}^n}{\Delta x^2},\tag{10}$$

In operator notation:

$$[D_t D_t u = c^2 D_x D_x]_i^n \tag{11}$$

#### Step 3: Algebraic version of the initial conditions

- Need to replace the derivative in the initial condition  $u_t(x,0) = 0$  by a finite difference approximation
- The differences for  $u_{tt}$  and  $u_{xx}$  have second-order accuracy
- Use a centered difference for  $u_t(x,0)$

$$[D_{2t}u]_i^n = 0, \quad n = 0 \quad \Rightarrow \quad u_i^{n-1} = u_i^{n+1}, \quad i = 0, \dots, N_x$$

The other initial condition u(x,0) = I(x) can be computed by

$$u_i^0 = I(x_i), \quad i = 0, \dots, N_x$$

#### Step 4: Formulating a recursive algorithm

- Nature of the algorithm: compute u in space at  $t = \Delta t, 2\Delta t, 3\Delta t, ...$
- Three time levels are involved in the general discrete equation: n+1, n, n-1
- $u_i^n$  and  $u_i^{n-1}$  are then already computed for  $i=0,\ldots,N_x$ , and  $u_i^{n+1}$  is the unknown quantity

Write out  $[D_t D_t u = c^2 D_x D_x]_i^n$  and solve for  $u_i^{n+1}$ 

$$u_i^{n+1} = -u_i^{n-1} + 2u_i^n + C^2 \left( u_{i+1}^n - 2u_i^n + u_{i-1}^n \right)$$
 (12)

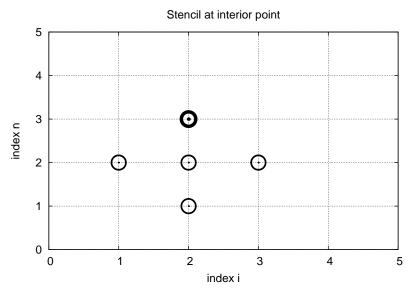
## The Courant number

$$C = c \frac{\Delta t}{\Delta x},\tag{13}$$

is known as the (dimensionless) Courant number

**Observe.** There is only one parameter, C, in the discrete model: C lumps mesh parameters  $\Delta t$  and  $\Delta x$  with the only physical parameter, the wave velocity c. The value C and the smoothness of I(x) govern the quality of the numerical solution.

## The finite difference stencil



#### The stencil for the first time level

- Problem: the stencil for n=1 involves  $u_i^{-1}$ , but time  $t=-\Delta t$  is outside the mesh
- $\bullet$  Remedy: use the initial condition  $u_t=0$  together with the stencil to eliminate  $u_i^{-1}$

Initial condition:

$$[D_{2t}u = 0]_i^0 \quad \Rightarrow \quad u_i^{-1} = u_i^1$$

Insert in stencil  $[D_t D_t u = c^2 D_x D_x]_i^0$  to get

$$u_i^1 = u_i^0 - \frac{1}{2}C^2 \left( u_{i+1}^n - 2u_i^n + u_{i-1}^n \right)$$
 (14)

#### The algorithm

- 1. Compute  $u_i^0 = I(x_i)$  for  $i = 0, \dots, N_x$
- 2. Compute  $u_i^1$  by  $(\ref{eq:initial})$  and set  $u_i^1=0$  for the boundary points i=0 and  $i=N_x,$  for  $n=1,2,\ldots,N-1,$
- 3. For each time level  $n = 1, 2, \ldots, N_t 1$ 
  - (a) apply (??) to find  $u_i^{n+1}$  for  $i=1,\ldots,N_x-1$
  - (b) set  $u_i^{n+1} = 0$  for the boundary points i = 0,  $i = N_x$ .

## Moving finite difference stencil

web page or a movie file.

## Sketch of an implementation (1)

- Arrays:
  - u[i] stores  $u_i^{n+1}$ - u\_1[i] stores  $u_i^n$
  - u\_2[i] stores  $u_i^{n-1}$

Naming convention. u is the unknown to be computed (a spatial mesh function), u\_k is the computed spatial mesh function k time steps back in time.

#### PDE solvers should save memory

Important to minimize the memory usage. The algorithm only needs to access the three most recent time levels, so we need only three arrays for  $u_i^{n+1}$ ,  $u_i^n$ , and  $u_i^{n-1}$ ,  $i = 0, \ldots, N_x$ . Storing all the solutions in a two-dimensional array of size  $(N_x + 1) \times (N_t + 1)$  would be possible in this simple one-dimensional PDE problem, but not in large 2D problems and not even in small 3D problems.

## Sketch of an implementation (2)

```
# Given mesh points as arrays x and t (x[i], t[n])
dx = x[1] - x[0]
dt = t[1] - t[0]
C = c*dt/dx
                       # Courant number
Nt = len(t)-1
C2 = C**2
                       # Help variable in the scheme
# Set initial condition u(x,0) = I(x)
for i in range(0, Nx+1):
    u_1[i] = I(x[i])
# Apply special formula for first step, incorporating du/dt=0
for i in range(1, Nx):
    u[i] = u_1[i] - 0.5*C**2(u_1[i+1] - 2*u_1[i] + u_1[i-1])
u[0] = 0; u[Nx] = 0 # Enforce boundary conditions
# Switch variables before next step
u_2[:], u_1[:] = u_1, u
for n in range(1, Nt):
    # Update all inner mesh points at time t[n+1]
    for i in range(1, Nx):
       u[i] = 2u_1[i] - u_2[i] - \
               C**2(u_1[i+1] - 2*u_1[i] + u_1[i-1])
```

```
# Insert boundary conditions
u[0] = 0; u[Nx] = 0

# Switch variables before next step
u_2[:], u_1[:] = u_1, u
```

## Verification

- Think about testing and verification before you start implementing the algorithm!
- Powerful testing tool: method of manufactured solutions and computation of convergence rates
- Will need a source term in the PDE and  $u_t(x,0) \neq 0$
- Even more powerful method: exact solution of the scheme

## A slightly generalized model problem

Add source term f and nonzero initial condition  $u_t(x, 0)$ :

$$u_{tt} = c^2 u_{xx} + f(x, t), (15)$$

$$u(x,0) = I(x),$$
  $x \in [0,L]$  (16)

$$u_t(x,0) = V(x), \qquad x \in [0,L] \tag{17}$$

$$u(0,t) = 0, (18)$$

$$u(L,t) = 0, (19)$$

## Discrete model for the generalized model problem

$$[D_t D_t u = c^2 D_x D_x + f]_i^n (20)$$

Writing out and solving for the unknown  $u_i^{n+1}$ :

$$u_i^{n+1} = -u_i^{n-1} + 2u_i^n + C^2(u_{i+1}^n - 2u_i^n + u_{i-1}^n) + \Delta t^2 f_i^n$$
(21)

#### Modified equation for the first time level

Centered difference for  $u_t(x,0) = V(x)$ :

$$[D_{2t}u = V]_i^0 \Rightarrow u_i^{-1} = u_i^1 - 2\Delta t V_i,$$

Inserting this in the stencil (??) for n = 0 leads to

$$u_i^1 = u_i^0 - \Delta t V_i + \frac{1}{2} C^2 \left( u_{i+1}^n - 2u_i^n + u_{i-1}^n \right) + \frac{1}{2} \Delta t^2 f_i^n$$
 (22)

## Using an analytical solution of physical significance

- Standing waves occur in real life on a string
- Can be analyzed mathematically (known exact solution)

$$u_{\rm e}(x,y,t) = A \sin\left(\frac{\pi}{L}x\right) \cos\left(\frac{\pi}{L}ct\right)$$
 (23)

- PDE data: f = 0, boundary conditions  $u_e(0,t) = u_e(L,0) = 0$ , initial conditions  $I(x) = A \sin\left(\frac{\pi}{L}x\right)$  and V = 0
- Note:  $u_i^{n+1} \neq u_e(x_i, t_{n+1})$ , and we do not know the error, so testing must aim at reproducing the expected convergence rates

## Manufactured solution: principles

- Disadvantage with the previous physical solution: it does not test  $V \neq 0$  and  $f \neq 0$
- Method of manufactured solution:
  - Choose some  $u_{\rm e}(x,t)$
  - Insert in PDE and fit f
  - Set boundary and initial conditions compatible with the chosen  $u_{\rm e}(x,t)$

#### Manufactured solution: example

$$u_{\rm e}(x,t) = x(L-x)\sin t$$

PDE  $u_{tt} = c^2 u_{xx} + f$ :

$$-x(L-x)\sin t = -2\sin t + f \quad \Rightarrow f = (2 - x(L-x))\sin t$$

Initial conditions become

$$u(x,0) = I(x) = 0$$
  
 $u_t(x,0) = V(x) = (2 - x(L - x))\cos t$ 

Boundary conditions:

$$u(x,0) = u(x,L) = 0$$

## Testing a manufactured solution

- Introduce common mesh parameter:  $h = \Delta t$ ,  $\Delta x = ch/C$
- This h keeps C and  $\Delta t/\Delta x$  constant
- Select coarse mesh h:  $h_0$
- Run experiments with  $h_i = 2^{-i}h_0$  (halving the cell size),  $i = 0, \ldots, m$
- Record the error  $E_i$  and  $h_i$  in each experiment
- Compute pariwise convergence rates  $r_i = \ln E_{i+1}/E_i/\ln h_{i+1}/h_i$
- Verification:  $r_i \to 2$  as i increases

#### Constructing an exact solution of the discrete equations

- Manufactured solution with computation of convergence rates: much manual work
- Simpler and more powerful: use an exact solution for  $u_i^n$
- A linear or quadratic  $u_e$  in x and t is often a good candidate

#### Analytical work with the PDE problem

Here, choose  $u_e$  such that  $u_e(x,0) = u_e(L,0) = 0$ :

$$u_{e}(x,t) = x(L-x)(1+\frac{1}{2}t),$$

Insert in the PDE and find f:

$$f(x,t) = 2(1+t)c^2$$

Initial conditions:

$$I(x) = x(L - x), \quad V(x) = \frac{1}{2}x(L - x)$$

#### Analytical work with the discrete equations (1)

We want to show that  $u_e$  also solves the discrete equations! Useful preliminary result:

$$[D_t D_t t^2]^n = \frac{t_{n+1}^2 - 2t_n^2 + t_{n-1}^2}{\Delta t^2} = (n+1)^2 - n^2 + (n-1)^2 = 2$$
 (24)

$$[D_t D_t t]^n = \frac{t_{n+1} - 2t_n + t_{n-1}}{\Delta t^2} = \frac{((n+1) - n + (n-1))\Delta t}{\Delta t^2} = 0$$
 (25)

Hence,

$$[D_t D_t u_e]_i^n = x_i (L - x_i) [D_t D_t (1 + \frac{1}{2}t)]^n = x_i (L - x_i) \frac{1}{2} [D_t D_t t]^n = 0$$

## Analytical work with the discrete equations (1)

$$[D_x D_x u_e]_i^n = (1 + \frac{1}{2}t_n)[D_x D_x (xL - x^2)]_i = (1 + \frac{1}{2}t_n)[LD_x D_x x - D_x D_x x^2]_i$$
$$= -2(1 + \frac{1}{2}t_n)$$

Now,  $f_i^n = 2(1 + \frac{1}{2}t_n)c^2$  and we get

$$[D_t D_t u_e - c^2 D_x D_x u_e - f]_i^n = 0 - c^2 (-1)2(1 + \frac{1}{2}t_n + 2(1 + \frac{1}{2}t_n)c^2 = 0$$

Moreover,  $u_{\rm e}(x_i,0)=I(x_i)$ ,  $\partial u_{\rm e}/\partial t=V(x_i)$  at t=0, and  $u_{\rm e}(x_0,t)=u_{\rm e}(x_{N_x},0)=0$ . Also the modified scheme for the first time step is fulfilled by  $u_{\rm e}(x_i,t_n)$ .

## Testing with the exact discrete solution

- We have established that  $u_i^{n+1} = u_e(x_i, t_{n+1}) = x_i(L x_i)(1 + t_{n+1}/2)$
- Run one simulation with one choice of c,  $\Delta t$ , and  $\Delta x$
- Check that  $\max_i |u_i^{n+1} u_e(x_i, t_{n+1})| < \epsilon, \epsilon \sim 10^{-14}$  (machine precision + some round-off errors)
- This is the simplest and best verification test

Later we show that the exact solution of the discrete equations can be obtained by C=1 (!)

# Implementation

#### The algorithm

- 1. Compute  $u_i^0 = I(x_i)$  for  $i = 0, \dots, N_x$
- 2. Compute  $u_i^1$  by (??) and set  $u_i^1 = 0$  for the boundary points i = 0 and  $i = N_x$ , for n = 1, 2, ..., N 1,
- 3. For each time level  $n = 1, 2, \dots, N_t 1$ 
  - (a) apply (??) to find  $u_i^{n+1}$  for  $i = 1, \ldots, N_x 1$
  - (b) set  $u_i^{n+1} = 0$  for the boundary points i = 0,  $i = N_x$ .

#### What do to with the solution?

- Different problem settings demand different actions with the computed  $u_i^{n+1}$  at each time step
- Solution: let the solver function make a callback to a user function where the user can do whatever is desired with the solution
- Advantage: solver just solves and user uses the solution

```
def user_action(u, x, t, n):
    # u[i] at spatial mesh points x[i] at time t[n]
    # plot u
# or store u
```

## Making a solver function (1)

We specify  $\Delta t$  and C, and let the solver function compute  $\Delta x = c\Delta t/C$ .

```
def solver(I, V, f, c, L, dt, C, T, user_action=None):
    """Solve u_tt=c^2*u_xx + f on (0,L)x(0,T]."""
   Nt = int(round(T/dt))
   t = linspace(0, Nt*dt, Nt+1)  # Mesh points in time
   dx = dt*c/float(C)
   Nx = int(round(L/dx))
   x = linspace(0, L, Nx+1)
                                   # Mesh points in space
   dx = x[1] - x[0]
   C2 = C**2
                                   # Help variable in the scheme
   if f is None or f == 0 :
       f = lambda x, t: 0
    if V is None or V == 0:
       V = lambda x: 0
   u = zeros(Nx+1) # Solution array at new time level
   u_1 = zeros(Nx+1)
                      # Solution at 1 time level back
   u 2 = zeros(Nx+1)
                      # Solution at 2 time levels back
    import time; t0 = time.clock() # for measuring CPU time
    # Load initial condition into u_1
    for i in range(0,Nx+1):
       u_1[i] = I(x[i])
    if user_action is not None:
        user_action(u_1, x, t, 0)
```

#### Making a solver function (2)

```
def solver(I, V, f, c, L, dt, C, T, user_action=None):
    ...
# Special formula for first time step
n = 0
for i in range(1, Nx):
```

## Making a solver function (3)

#### Verification: exact quadratic solution

Exact solution of the PDE problem and the discrete equations:  $u_{\rm e}(x,t)=x(L-x)(1+\frac{1}{2}t)$ 

```
import nose.tools as nt

def test_quadratic():
    """Check that u(x,t)=x(L-x)(1+t/2) is exactly reproduced."""
    def u_exact(x, t):
        return x*(L-x)*(1 + 0.5*t)

def I(x):
    return u_exact(x, 0)

def V(x):
    return 0.5*u_exact(x, 0)
```

```
def f(x, t):
    return 2*(1 + 0.5*t)*c**2

L = 2.5
    c = 1.5
    C = 0.75
    Nx = 3  # Very coarse mesh for this exact test
    dt = C*(L/Nx)/c
    T = 18

u, x, t, cpu = solver(I, V, f, c, L, dt, C, T)
    u_e = u_exact(x, t[-1])
    diff = abs(u - u_e).max()
    nt.assert_almost_equal(diff, 0, places=14)
```

## Visualization: animating u(x,t)

Make a viz function for animating the curve, with plotting in a user\_action function plot\_u:

```
def viz(I, V, f, c, L, dt, C, T, umin, umax, animate=True):
    """Run solver and visualize u at each time level."""
    import scitools.std as plt
    import time, glob, os
    def plot_u(u, x, t, n):
         """user_action function for solver."""
        plt.plot(x, u, 'r-',
                 xlabel='x', ylabel='u'
                 axis=[0, L, umin, umax],
                 title='t=%f' % t[n], show=True)
        \# Let the initial condition stay on the screen for 2
        \# seconds, else insert a pause of 0.2 s between each plot
       time.sleep(2) if t[n] == 0 else time.sleep(0.2)
       plt.savefig('frame_%04d.png' % n) # for movie making
    # Clean up old movie frames
   for filename in glob.glob('frame_*.png'):
        os.remove(filename)
   user_action = plot_u if animate else None
   u, x, t, cpu = solver(I, V, f, c, L, dt, C, T, user_action)
    # Make movie files
   fps = 4 # Frames per second
   plt.movie('frame_*.png', encoder='html', fps=fps,
             output_file='movie.html')
    codec2ext = dict(flv='flv', libx264='mp4', libvpx='webm',
                     libtheora='ogg')
   filespec = 'frame_%04d.png'
   movie_program = 'avconv'
                              # or 'ffmpeg'
   for codec in codec2ext:
        ext = codec2ext[codec]
        cmd = \mbox{'}(movie\_program)s -r \mbox{'}(fps)d -i \mbox{'}(filespec)s '\
              '-vcodec %(codec)s movie.%(ext)s' % vars()
        os.system(cmd)
```

Note: plot\_u is function inside function and remembers the local variables in viz (known as a closure).

#### Making movie files

- Store spatial curve in a file, for each time level
- Name files like 'something\_%04d.png' % frame\_counter
- Combine files to a movie

```
Terminal> scitools movie encoder=html output_file=movie.html \
fps=4 frame_*.png # web page with a player

Terminal> avconv -r 4 -i frame_%04d.png -c:v flv movie.flv

Terminal> avconv -r 4 -i frame_%04d.png -c:v libtheora movie.ogg

Terminal> avconv -r 4 -i frame_%04d.png -c:v libtx264 movie.mp4

Terminal> avconv -r 4 -i frame_%04d.png -c:v libpvx movie.webm
```

#### Important.

- Zero padding (%04d) is essential for correct sequence of frames in something\_\*.png (Unix alphanumeric sort)
- Remove old frame\_\*.png files before making a new movie

#### Running a case

- Vibrations of a guitar string
- Triangular initial shape (at rest)

$$I(x) = \begin{cases} ax/x_0, & x < x_0 \\ a(L-x)/(L-x_0), & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$
 (26)

Appropriate data:

• L = 75 cm,  $x_0 = 0.8L$ , a = 5 mm, time frequency  $\nu = 440$  Hz

#### Implementation of the case

```
def guitar(C):
    """Triangular wave (pulled guitar string)."""
    L = 0.75
    x0 = 0.8*L
    a = 0.005
    freq = 440
    wavelength = 2*L
    c = freq*wavelength
    omega = 2*pi*freq
    num_periods = 1
    T = 2*pi/omega*num_periods
```

```
# Choose dt the same as the stability limit for Nx=50
dt = L/50./c

def I(x):
    return a*x/x0 if x < x0 else a/(L-x0)*(L-x)

umin = -1.2*a; umax = -umin
cpu = viz(I, 0, 0, c, L, dt, C, T, umin, umax, animate=True)</pre>
```

Program: wave1D\_u0.py.

#### Resulting movie for C = 0.8

Movie of the vibrating string

#### The benefits of scaling

- It is difficult to figure out all the physical parameters of a case
- And it is not necessary because of a powerful: scaling

Introduce new x, t, and u without dimension:

$$\bar{x} = \frac{x}{L}, \quad \bar{t} = \frac{c}{L}t, \quad \bar{u} = \frac{u}{a}$$

Insert this in the PDE (with f = 0) and dropping bars

$$u_{tt} = u_{xx}$$

Initial condition: set a = 1, L = 1, and  $x_0 \in [0, 1]$  in (??).

In the code: set a=c=L=1, x0=0.8, and there is no need to calculate with wavelengths and frequencies to estimate c!

Just one challenge: determine the period of the waves and an appropriate end time (see the text for details).

## Vectorization

- Problem: Python loops over long arrays are slow
- One remedy: use vectorized (numpy) code instead of explicit loops
- Other remedies: use Cython, port spatial loops to Fortran or C
- Speedup: 100-1000 (varies with  $N_x$ )

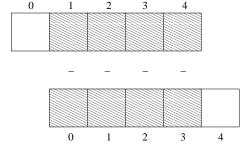
Next: vectorized loops

## Operations on slices of arrays

• Introductory example: compute  $d_i = u_{i+1} - u_i$ 

```
n = u.size
for i in range(0, n-1):
    d[i] = u[i+1] - u[i]
```

- Note: all the differences here are independent of each other.
- Therefore  $d = (u_1, u_2, \dots, u_n) (u_0, u_1, \dots, u_{n-1})$
- In numpy code: u[1:n] u[0:n-1] or just u[1:] u[:-1]



## Test the understanding

Newcomers to vectorization are encouraged to choose a small array u, say with five elements, and simulate with pen and paper both the loop version and the vectorized version.

## Vectorization of finite difference schemes (1)

Finite difference schemes basically contains differences between array elements with shifted indices. Consider the updating formula

```
for i in range(1, n-1):
    u2[i] = u[i-1] - 2*u[i] + u[i+1]
```

The vectorization consists of replacing the loop by arithmetics on slices of arrays of length n-2:

```
u2 = u[:-2] - 2*u[1:-1] + u[2:]

u2 = u[0:n-2] - 2*u[1:n-1] + u[2:n] # alternative
```

Note: u2 gets length n-2.

If u2 is already an array of length n, do update on "inner" elements

# Vectorization of finite difference schemes (2)

Include a function evaluation too:

```
def f(x):
    return x**2 + 1

# Scalar version
for i in range(1, n-1):
    u2[i] = u[i-1] - 2*u[i] + u[i+1] + f(x[i])

# Vectorized version
u2[1:-1] = u[:-2] - 2*u[1:-1] + u[2:] + f(x[1:-1])
```

## Vectorized implementation in the solver function

Scalar loop:

```
for i in range(1, Nx):
    u[i] = 2*u_1[i] - u_2[i] + \
        C2*(u_1[i-1] - 2*u_1[i] + u_1[i+1])
```

Vectorized loop:

or

Program: wave1D\_u0v.py

#### Verification of the vectorized version

```
def test_quadratic():
    Check the scalar and vectorized versions work for
    a quadratic u(x,t)=x(L-x)(1+t/2) that is exactly reproduced.
    \# The following function must work for x as array or scalar
    u_exact = lambda x, t: x*(L - x)*(1 + 0.5*t)
   I = lambda x: u_exact(x, 0)
    V = lambda x: 0.5*u_exact(x, 0)
    \begin{tabular}{ll} \# \ f \ is \ a \ scalar \ (zeros\_like(x) \ works \ for \ scalar \ x \ too) \end{tabular}
    f = lambda x, t: zeros_like(x) + 2*c**2*(1 + 0.5*t)
    L = 2.5
    c = 1.5
    C = 0.75
    Nx = 3 # Very coarse mesh for this exact test
    dt = C*(L/Nx)/c
    T = 18
    def assert_no_error(u, x, t, n):
   u_e = u_exact(x, t[n])
```

Note:

- Compact code with lambda functions
- The scalar f value needs careful coding: return constant array if vectorized code, else number

## Efficiency measurements

- Run wave1D\_u0v.py for  $N_x$  as 50,100,200,400,800 and measuring the CPU time
- Observe substantial speed-up: vectorized version is about  $N_x/5$  times faster

Much bigger improvements for 2D and 3D codes!

# Generalization: reflecting boundaries

- Boundary condition u = 0: u changes sign
- Boundary condition  $u_x = 0$ : wave is perfectly reflected
- How can we implement  $u_x$ ? (more complicated than u=0)

Demo of boundary conditions

#### Neumann boundary condition

$$\frac{\partial u}{\partial n} \equiv \boldsymbol{n} \cdot \nabla u = 0 \tag{27}$$

For a 1D domain [0, L]:

$$\left. \frac{\partial}{\partial n} \right|_{x=L} = \frac{\partial}{\partial x}, \quad \left. \frac{\partial}{\partial n} \right|_{x=0} = -\frac{\partial}{\partial x}$$

Boundary condition terminology:

- $u_x$  specified: Neumann condition
- u specified: Dirichlet condition

## Discretization of derivatives at the boundary (1)

- How can we incorporate the condition  $u_x = 0$  in the finite difference scheme?
- We used centeral differences for  $u_{tt}$  and  $u_{xx}$ :  $\mathcal{O}(\Delta t^2, \Delta x^2)$  accuracy
- Also for  $u_t(x,0)$
- Should use central difference for  $u_x$  to preserve second order accuracy

$$\frac{u_{-1}^n - u_1^n}{2\Delta x} = 0 (28)$$

#### Discretization of derivatives at the boundary (2)

$$\frac{u_{-1}^n - u_1^n}{2\Delta x} = 0$$

- Problem:  $u_{-1}^n$  is outside the mesh (fictitious value)
- Remedy: use the stencil at the boundary to eliminate  $u_{-1}^n$ ; just replace  $u_{-1}^n$  by  $u_1^n$

$$u_i^{n+1} = -u_i^{n-1} + 2u_i^n + 2C^2 \left( u_{i+1}^n - u_i^n \right), \quad i = 0$$
 (29)

## Visualization of modified boundary stencil

Discrete equation for computing  $u_0^3$  in terms of  $u_0^2$ ,  $u_0^1$ , and  $u_1^2$ : Animation in a web page or a movie file.

#### Implementation of Neumann conditions

- Use the general stencil for interior points also on the boundary
- Replace  $u_{i-1}^n$  by  $u_{i+1}^n$  for i=0
- Replace  $u_{i+1}^n$  by  $u_{i-1}^n$  for  $i = N_x$

```
i = 0
ip1 = i+1
im1 = ip1  # i-1 -> i+1
u[i] = u_1[i] + C2*(u_1[im1] - 2*u_1[i] + u_1[ip1])

i = Nx
im1 = i-1
ip1 = im1  # i+1 -> i-1
u[i] = u_1[i] + C2*(u_1[im1] - 2*u_1[i] + u_1[ip1])

# Or just one loop over all points

for i in range(0, Nx+1):
    ip1 = i+1 if i < Nx else i-1
    im1 = i-1 if i > 0 else i+1
    u[i] = u_1[i] + C2*(u_1[im1] - 2*u_1[i] + u_1[ip1])

Program wave1D_dn0.py
```

## Moving finite difference stencil

web page or a movie file.

#### Index set notation

- Tedious to write index sets like  $i = 0, ..., N_x$  and  $n = 0, ..., N_t$
- Notation not valid if i or n starts at 1 instead...
- ullet Both in math and code it is advantageous to use  $index\ sets$
- $i \in \mathcal{I}_x$  instead of  $i = 0, \dots, N_x$
- Definition:  $\mathcal{I}_x = \{0, \dots, N_x\}$
- The first index:  $i = \mathcal{I}_x^0$
- The last index:  $i = \mathcal{I}_x^{-1}$
- All interior points:  $i \in \mathcal{I}_x^i, \mathcal{I}_x^i = \{1, \dots, N_x 1\}$
- $\mathcal{I}_x^-$  means  $\{0,\ldots,N_x-1\}$
- $\mathcal{I}_x^+$  means  $\{1,\ldots,N_x\}$

#### Index set notation in code

Notation	Python
$\mathcal{I}_x$	Ix
$\mathcal{I}_x^0$	Ix[0]
$\mathcal{I}_x^{-1}$	Ix[-1]
$\mathcal{I}_x^-$	<pre>Ix[1:]</pre>
$\mathcal{I}_x^+$	Ix[:-1]
$\mathcal{I}_x^i$	Ix[1:-1]

## Index sets in action (1)

Index sets for a problem in the x, t plane:

$$\mathcal{I}_x = \{0, \dots, N_x\}, \quad \mathcal{I}_t = \{0, \dots, N_t\},$$
 (30)

Implemented in Python as

## Index sets in action (2)

A finite difference scheme can with the index set notation be specified as

```
u_i^{n+1} = -u_i^{n-1} + 2u_i^n + C^2 \left( u_{i+1}^n - 2u_i^n + u_{i-1}^n \right), \quad i \in \mathcal{I}_x^i, \ n \in \mathcal{I}_t^i
u_i = 0, \quad i = \mathcal{I}_x^0, \ n \in \mathcal{I}_t^i
u_i = 0, \quad i = \mathcal{I}_x^{-1}, \ n \in \mathcal{I}_t^i
```

Corresponding implementation:

Program wave1D\_dn.py

## Alternative implementation via ghost cells

- Instead of modifying the stencil at the boundary, we extend the mesh to cover  $u_{-1}^n$  and  $u_{N_x+1}^n$
- The extra left and right cell are called *qhost cells*
- The extra points are called *ghost points*
- The  $u_{-1}^n$  and  $u_{N_x+1}^n$  values are called *ghost values*
- $\bullet \,$  Update ghost values as  $u_{i-1}^n=u_{i+1}^n$  for i=0 and  $i=N_x$
- Then the stencil becomes right at the boundary

## Implementation of ghost cells (1)

Add ghost points:

```
u = zeros(Nx+3)
u_1 = zeros(Nx+3)
u_2 = zeros(Nx+3)
x = linspace(0, L, Nx+1) # Mesh points without ghost points
```

- A major indexing problem arises with ghost cells since Python indices *must* start at 0.
- $\bullet$  u[-1] will always mean the last element in u
- Math indexing:  $-1, 0, 1, 2, \dots, N_x + 1$

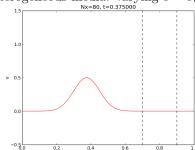
- Python indexing: 0,..,Nx+2
- Remedy: use index sets

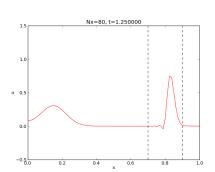
## Implementation of ghost cells (2)

Program: wave1D\_dn0\_ghost.py.

# Generalization: variable wave velocity

Heterogeneous media: varying c = c(x)





#### The model PDE with a variable coefficient

$$\frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial t^2} = \frac{\partial}{\partial x} \left( q(x) \frac{\partial u}{\partial x} \right) + f(x, t) \tag{31}$$

This equation sampled at a mesh point  $(x_i, t_n)$ :

$$\frac{\partial^2}{\partial t^2}u(x_i,t_n) = \frac{\partial}{\partial x}\left(q(x_i)\frac{\partial}{\partial x}u(x_i,t_n)\right) + f(x_i,t_n),$$

## Discretizing the variable coefficient (1)

The principal idea is to first discretize the outer derivative.

Define

$$\phi = q(x) \frac{\partial u}{\partial x}$$

Then use a centered derivative around  $x=x_i$  for the derivative of  $\phi$ :

$$\left[\frac{\partial \phi}{\partial x}\right]_{i}^{n} \approx \frac{\phi_{i+\frac{1}{2}} - \phi_{i-\frac{1}{2}}}{\Delta x} = [D_{x}\phi]_{i}^{n}$$

## Discretizing the variable coefficient (2)

Then discretize the inner operators:

$$\phi_{i+\frac{1}{2}} = q_{i+\frac{1}{2}} \left[ \frac{\partial u}{\partial x} \right]_{i+\frac{1}{2}}^{n} \approx q_{i+\frac{1}{2}} \frac{u_{i+1}^{n} - u_{i}^{n}}{\Delta x} = [qD_{x}u]_{i+\frac{1}{2}}^{n}$$

Similarly,

$$\phi_{i-\frac{1}{2}} = q_{i-\frac{1}{2}} \left[ \frac{\partial u}{\partial x} \right]_{i-\frac{1}{2}}^{n} \approx q_{i-\frac{1}{2}} \frac{u_{i}^{n} - u_{i-1}^{n}}{\Delta x} = [qD_{x}u]_{i-\frac{1}{2}}^{n}$$

## Discretizing the variable coefficient (3)

These intermediate results are now combined to

$$\left[\frac{\partial}{\partial x}\left(q(x)\frac{\partial u}{\partial x}\right)\right]_{i}^{n} \approx \frac{1}{\Delta x^{2}}\left(q_{i+\frac{1}{2}}\left(u_{i+1}^{n}-u_{i}^{n}\right)-q_{i-\frac{1}{2}}\left(u_{i}^{n}-u_{i-1}^{n}\right)\right)$$
(32)

In operator notation:

$$\left[\frac{\partial}{\partial x}\left(q(x)\frac{\partial u}{\partial x}\right)\right]_{i}^{n} \approx \left[D_{x}qD_{x}u\right]_{i}^{n} \tag{33}$$

**Remark.** Many are tempted to use the chain rule on the term  $\frac{\partial}{\partial x} (q(x) \frac{\partial u}{\partial x})$ , but this is not a good idea!

#### Computing the coefficient between mesh points

- Given q(x): compute  $q_{i+\frac{1}{2}}$  as  $q(x_{i+\frac{1}{2}})$
- Given q at the mesh points:  $q_i$ , use an average

$$q_{i+\frac{1}{2}} \approx \frac{1}{2} (q_i + q_{i+1}) = [\overline{q}^x]_i$$
 (arithmetic mean) (34)

$$q_{i+\frac{1}{2}} \approx 2\left(\frac{1}{q_i} + \frac{1}{q_{i+1}}\right)^{-1}$$
 (harmonic mean) (35)

$$q_{i+\frac{1}{2}} \approx (q_i q_{i+1})^{1/2} \qquad (geometric mean) \qquad (36)$$

The arithmetic mean in (??) is by far the most used averaging technique.

# Discretization of variable-coefficient wave equation in operator notation

$$[D_t D_t u = D_x \overline{q}^x D_x u + f]_i^n \tag{37}$$

We clearly see the type of finite differences and averaging! Write out and solve wrt  $u_i^{n+1}$ :

$$u_i^{n+1} = -u_i^{n-1} + 2u_i^n + \left(\frac{\Delta x}{\Delta t}\right)^2 \times \left(\frac{1}{2}(q_i + q_{i+1})(u_{i+1}^n - u_i^n) - \frac{1}{2}(q_i + q_{i-1})(u_i^n - u_{i-1}^n)\right) + \Delta t^2 f_i^n$$
(38)

#### Neumann condition and a variable coefficient

Consider  $\partial u/\partial x = 0$  at  $x = L = N_x \Delta x$ :

$$\frac{u_{i+1}^n - u_{i-1}^n}{2\Delta x} = 0 \quad u_{i+1}^n = u_{i-1}^n, \quad i = N_x$$

Insert  $u_{i+1}^n = u_{i-1}^n$  in the stencil  $(\ref{eq:stence})$  for  $i = N_x$  and obtain

$$u_i^{n+1} \approx -u_i^{n-1} + 2u_i^n + \left(\frac{\Delta x}{\Delta t}\right)^2 2q_i(u_{i-1}^n - u_i^n) + \Delta t^2 f_i^n$$

(We have used  $q_{i+\frac{1}{2}} + q_{i-\frac{1}{2}} \approx 2q_i$ .)

Alternative: assume dq/dx = 0 (simpler).

#### Implementation of variable coefficients

Assume c[i] holds  $c_i$  the spatial mesh points

Here: C2=(dt/dx)\*\*2 Vectorized version:

Neumann condition  $u_x = 0$ : same ideas as in 1D (modified stencil or ghost cells).

#### A more general model PDE with variable coefficients

$$\varrho(x)\frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial t^2} = \frac{\partial}{\partial x} \left( q(x) \frac{\partial u}{\partial x} \right) + f(x, t) \tag{39}$$

A natural scheme is

$$[\varrho D_t D_t u = D_x \overline{q}^x D_x u + f]_i^n \tag{40}$$

Or

$$[D_t D_t u = \varrho^{-1} D_x \overline{q}^x D_x u + f]_i^n \tag{41}$$

No need to average  $\varrho$ , just sample at i

## Generalization: damping

Why do waves die out?

- Damping (non-elastic effects, air resistance)
- 2D/3D: conservation of energy makes an amplitude reduction by  $1/\sqrt{r}$  (2D) or 1/r (3D)

Simplest damping model (for physical behavior, see demo):

$$\frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial t^2} + b \frac{\partial u}{\partial t} = c^2 \frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial x^2} + f(x, t), \tag{42}$$

 $b \ge 0$ : prescribed damping coefficient.

Discretization via centered differences to ensure  $\mathcal{O}(\Delta t^2)$  error:

$$[D_t D_t u + b D_{2t} u = c^2 D_x D_x u + f]_i^n (43)$$

Need special formula for  $u_i^1$  + special stencil (or ghost cells) for Neumann conditions.

## Building a general 1D wave equation solver

The program wave1D\_dn\_vc.py solves a fairly general 1D wave equation:

$$u_t = (c^2(x)u_x)_x + f(x,t),$$
  $x \in (0,L), t \in (0,T]$  (44)

$$u(x,0) = I(x), x \in [0,L] (45)$$

$$u_t(x,0) = V(t), \qquad x \in [0,L] \tag{46}$$

$$u(0,t) = U_0(t) \text{ or } u_x(0,t) = 0,$$
  $t \in (0,T]$  (47)

$$u(L,t) = U_L(t) \text{ or } u_x(L,t) = 0,$$
  $t \in (0,T]$  (48)

Can be adapted to many needs.

## Collection of initial conditions

The function pulse in wave1D\_dn\_vc.py offers four initial conditions:

- 1. a rectangular pulse ("plug")
- 2. a Gaussian function (gaussian)
- 3. a "cosine hat": one period of  $1 + \cos(\pi x, x \in [-1, 1])$
- 4. half a "cosine hat": half a period of  $\cos \pi x$ ,  $x \in \left[-\frac{1}{2}, \frac{1}{2}\right]$

Can locate the initial pulse at x = 0 or in the middle

# Finite difference methods for 2D and 3D wave equations

Constant wave velocity c:

$$\frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial t^2} = c^2 \nabla^2 u \text{ for } \boldsymbol{x} \in \Omega \subset \mathbb{R}^d, \ t \in (0, T]$$
(49)

Variable wave velocity:

$$\varrho \frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial t^2} = \nabla \cdot (q \nabla u) + f \text{ for } \boldsymbol{x} \in \Omega \subset \mathbb{R}^d, \ t \in (0, T]$$
 (50)

## Examples on wave equations written out in 2D/3D

3D, constant c:

$$\nabla^2 u = \frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial x^2} + \frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial y^2} + \frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial z^2}$$

2D, variable c:

$$\varrho(x,y)\frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial t^2} = \frac{\partial}{\partial x}\left(q(x,y)\frac{\partial u}{\partial x}\right) + \frac{\partial}{\partial y}\left(q(x,y)\frac{\partial u}{\partial y}\right) + f(x,y,t) \tag{51}$$

Compact notation:

$$u_{tt} = c^2(u_{xx} + u_{yy} + u_{zz}) + f, (52)$$

$$\varrho u_{tt} = (qu_x)_x + (qu_z)_z + (qu_z)_z + f \tag{53}$$

## Boundary and initial conditions

We need one boundary condition at each point on  $\partial\Omega$ :

- 1. u is prescribed (u = 0 or known incoming wave)
- 2.  $\partial u/\partial n = \mathbf{n} \cdot \nabla u$  prescribed (= 0: reflecting boundary)
- 3. open boundary (radiation) condition:  $u_t + \mathbf{c} \cdot \nabla u = 0$  (let waves travel undisturbed out of the domain)

PDEs with second-order time derivative need two initial conditions:

- 1. u = I,
- 2.  $u_t = V$ .

## Example: 2D propagation of Gaussian function

#### Mesh

- Mesh point:  $(x_i, y_j, z_k, t_n)$
- x direction:  $x_0 < x_1 < \cdots < x_{N_x}$
- y direction:  $y_0 < y_1 < \cdots < y_{N_n}$
- z direction:  $z_0 < z_1 < \cdots < z_{N_z}$
- $u_{i,j,k}^n \approx u_{\mathrm{e}}(x_i, y_j, z_k, t_n)$

## Discretization

$$[D_t D_t u = c^2 (D_x D_x u + D_y D_y u) + f]_{i,i,k}^n$$

Written out in detail:

$$\begin{split} \frac{u_{i,j}^{n+1} - 2u_{i,j}^n + u_{i,j}^{n-1}}{\Delta t^2} &= c^2 \frac{u_{i+1,j}^n - 2u_{i,j}^n + u_{i-1,j}^n}{\Delta x^2} + \\ &c^2 \frac{u_{i,j+1}^n - 2u_{i,j}^n + u_{i,j-1}^n}{\Delta y^2} + f_{i,j}^n, \end{split}$$

 $u_{i,j}^{n-1}$  and  $u_{i,j}^n$  are known, solve for  $u_{i,j}^{n+1}$ :

$$u_{i,j}^{n+1} = 2u_{i,j}^n + u_{i,j}^{n-1} + c^2 \Delta t^2 [D_x D_x u + D_y D_y u]_{i,j}^n$$

## Special stencil for the first time step

- The stencil for  $u_{i,j}^1$  (n=0) involves  $u_{i,j}^{-1}$  which is outside the time mesh
- Remedy: use discretized  $u_t(x,0) = V$  and the stencil for n = 0 to develop a special stencil (as in the 1D case)

$$[D_{2t}u = V]_{i,j}^{0} \quad \Rightarrow \quad u_{i,j}^{-1} = u_{i,j}^{1} - 2\Delta t V_{i,j}$$

$$u_{i,j}^{n+1} = u_{i,j}^{n} - 2\Delta V_{i,j} + \frac{1}{2}c^{2}\Delta t^{2}[D_{x}D_{x}u + D_{y}D_{y}u]_{i,j}^{n}$$

## Variable coefficients (1)

3D wave equation:

$$\varrho u_{tt} = (qu_x)_x + (qu_y)_y + (qu_z)_z + f(x, y, z, t)$$

Just apply the 1D discretization for each term:

$$[\varrho D_t D_t u = (D_x \overline{q}^x D_x u + D_y \overline{q}^y D_y u + D_z \overline{q}^z D_z u) + f]_{i,j,k}^n$$
(54)

Need special formula for  $u_{i,j,k}^1$  (use  $[D_{2t}u=V]^0$  and stencil for n=0).

#### Variable coefficients (2)

Written out:

$$\begin{split} u_{i,j,k}^{n+1} &= -u_{i,j,k}^{n-1} + 2u_{i,j,k}^n + \\ &= \frac{1}{\varrho_{i,j,k}} \frac{1}{\Delta x^2} (\frac{1}{2} (q_{i,j,k} + q_{i+1,j,k}) (u_{i+1,j,k}^n - u_{i,j,k}^n) - \\ &\qquad \qquad \frac{1}{2} (q_{i-1,j,k} + q_{i,j,k}) (u_{i,j,k}^n - u_{i-1,j,k}^n)) + \\ &= \frac{1}{\varrho_{i,j,k}} \frac{1}{\Delta x^2} (\frac{1}{2} (q_{i,j,k} + q_{i,j+1,k}) (u_{i,j+1,k}^n - u_{i,j,k}^n) - \\ &\qquad \qquad \frac{1}{2} (q_{i,j-1,k} + q_{i,j,k}) (u_{i,j,k}^n - u_{i,j-1,k}^n)) + \\ &= \frac{1}{\varrho_{i,j,k}} \frac{1}{\Delta x^2} (\frac{1}{2} (q_{i,j,k} + q_{i,j,k+1}) (u_{i,j,k+1}^n - u_{i,j,k}^n) - \\ &\qquad \qquad \frac{1}{2} (q_{i,j,k-1} + q_{i,j,k}) (u_{i,j,k}^n - u_{i,j,k-1}^n)) + \\ &+ \Delta t^2 f_{i,j,k}^n \end{split}$$

#### Neumann boundary condition in 2D

Use ideas from 1D! Example:  $\frac{\partial u}{\partial n}$  at y=0,  $\frac{\partial u}{\partial n}=-\frac{\partial u}{\partial y}$  Boundary condition discretization:

$$[-D_{2y}u = 0]_{i,0}^n \quad \Rightarrow \quad \frac{u_{i,1}^n - u_{i,-1}^n}{2\Delta u} = 0, \ i \in \mathcal{I}_x$$

Insert  $u_{i,-1}^n = u_{i,1}^n$  in the stencil for  $u_{i,j=0}^{n+1}$  to obtain a modified stencil on the boundary.

Pattern: use interior stencil also on the bundary, but replace j-1 by j+1 Alternative: use ghost cells and ghost values

# Implementation of 2D/3D problems

$$u_t = c^2(u_{xx} + u_{yy}) + f(x, y, t),$$
  $(x, y) \in \Omega, \ t \in (0, T]$  (55)

$$u(x, y, 0) = I(x, y), \qquad (x, y) \in \Omega \qquad (56)$$

$$u_t(x, y, 0) = V(x, y), \qquad (x, y) \in \Omega \qquad (57)$$

$$u = 0, (x, y) \in \partial \Omega, \ t \in (0, T] (58)$$

 $\Omega = [0, L_x] \times [0, L_y]$ 

Discretization:

$$[D_t D_t u = c^2 (D_x D_x u + D_y D_y u) + f]_{i,j}^n,$$

## Algorithm

- 1. Set initial condition  $u_{i,j}^0 = I(x_i, y_j)$
- 2. Compute  $u_{i,j}^1 = \cdots$  for  $i \in \mathcal{I}_x^i$  and  $j \in \mathcal{I}_y^i$
- 3. Set  $u_{i,j}^1 = 0$  for the boundaries  $i = 0, N_x, j = 0, N_y$
- 4. For  $n = 1, 2, \dots, N_t$ :
  - (a) Find  $u_{i,j}^{n+1} = \cdots$  for  $i \in \mathcal{I}_x^i$  and  $j \in \mathcal{I}_y^i$
  - (b) Set  $u_{i,j}^{n+1} = 0$  for the boundaries  $i = 0, N_x, j = 0, N_y$

## Scalar computations: mesh

Program: wave2D\_u0.py

#### Mesh:

#### Scalar computations: arrays

Store  $u_{i,j}^{n+1}$ ,  $u_{i,j}^{n}$ , and  $u_{i,j}^{n-1}$  in three two-dimensional arrays:

 $u_{i,j}^{n+1}$  corresponds to u[i,j], etc.

#### Scalar computations: initial condition

```
Ix = range(0, u.shape[0])
Iy = range(0, u.shape[1])
It = range(0, t.shape[0])

for i in Ix:
    for j in Iy:
        u_1[i,j] = I(x[i], y[j])

if user_action is not None:
    user_action(u_1, x, xv, y, yv, t, 0)
```

Arguments xv and yv: for vectorized computations

#### Scalar computations: primary stencil

```
def advance_scalar(u, u_1, u_2, f, x, y, t, n, Cx2, Cy2, dt2,
                   V=None, step1=False):
    Ix = range(0, u.shape[0]); Iy = range(0, u.shape[1])
    if step1:
        dt = sqrt(dt2)
                       # save
        Cx2 = 0.5*Cx2; Cy2 = 0.5*Cy2; dt2 = 0.5*dt2 # redefine
       D1 = 1; D2 = 0
        D1 = 2; D2 = 1
    for i in Ix[1:-1]:
        for j in Iy[1:-1]:
            u_x = u_1[i-1,j] - 2*u_1[i,j] + u_1[i+1,j]
            u_yy = u_1[i,j-1] - 2*u_1[i,j] + u_1[i,j+1]
            u[i,j] = D1*u_1[i,j] - D2*u_2[i,j] + 
                     Cx2*u_xx + Cy2*u_yy + dt2*f(x[i], y[j],
                         t[n])
            if step1:
                u[i,j] += dt*V(x[i], y[j])
    # Boundary condition u=0
    j = Iy[0]
    for i in Ix: u[i,j] = 0
    j = Iy[-1]
    for i in Ix: u[i,j] = 0
    i = Ix[0]
    for j in Iy: u[i,j] = 0
    i = Ix[-1]
    for j in Iy: u[i,j] = 0
    return u
```

D1 and D2: allow advance\_scalar to be used also for  $u_{i,j}^1$ :

```
u = advance_scalar(u, u_1, u_2, f, x, y, t,
n, 0.5*Cx2, 0.5*Cy2, 0.5*dt2, D1=1, D2=0)
```

#### Vectorized computations: mesh coordinates

Mesh with  $30 \times 30$  cells: vectorization reduces the CPU time by a factor of 70 (!).

Need special coordinate arrays xv and yv such that I(x,y) and f(x,y,t) can be vectorized:

```
from numpy import newaxis
xv = x[:,newaxis]
yv = y[newaxis,:]

u_1[:,:] = I(xv, yv)
f_a[:,:] = f(xv, yv, t)
```

#### Vectorized computations: stencil

```
if step1:
    dt = sqrt(dt2) # save
    Cx2 = 0.5*Cx2; Cy2 = 0.5*Cy2; dt2 = 0.5*dt2 # redefine
   D1 = 1; D2 = 0
   D1 = 2; D2 = 1
u_x = u_1[:-2,1:-1] - 2*u_1[1:-1,1:-1] + u_1[2:,1:-1]
u_yy = u_1[1:-1,:-2] - 2*u_1[1:-1,1:-1] + u_1[1:-1,2:]
u[1:-1,1:-1] = D1*u_1[1:-1,1:-1] - D2*u_2[1:-1,1:-1] + 
               Cx2*u_xx + Cy2*u_yy + dt2*f_a[1:-1,1:-1]
if step1:
    u[1:-1,1:-1] += dt*V[1:-1, 1:-1]
# Boundary condition u=0
u[:,j] = 0
j = u.shape[1]-1
u[:,j] = 0
u[i,:] = 0
i = u.shape[0]-1
u[i,:] = 0
return u
```

## Verification: quadratic solution (1)

Manufactured solution:

$$u_{e}(x, y, t) = x(L_{x} - x)y(L_{y} - y)(1 + \frac{1}{2}t)$$
 (59)

Requires  $f = 2c^2(1 + \frac{1}{2}t)(y(L_y - y) + x(L_x - x)).$ 

This  $u_e$  is ideal because it also solves the discrete equations!

## Verification: quadratic solution (2)

- $\bullet \ [D_t D_t 1]^n = 0$
- $\bullet \ [D_t D_t t]^n = 0$
- $\bullet \ [D_t D_t t^2] = 2$
- $D_t D_t$  is a linear operator:  $[D_t D_t (au + bv)]^n = a[D_t D_t u]^n + b[D_t D_t v]^n$

$$[D_x D_x u_e]_{i,j}^n = [y(L_y - y)(1 + \frac{1}{2}t)D_x D_x x(L_x - x)]_{i,j}^n$$
$$= y_j (L_y - y_j)(1 + \frac{1}{2}t_n)2$$

- Similar calculations for  $[D_y D_y u_e]_{i,j}^n$  and  $[D_t D_t u_e]_{i,j}^n$  terms
- Must also check the equation for  $u_{i,j}^1$

# Migrating loops to Cython

- Vectorization: 5-10 times slower than pure C or Fortran code
- Cython: extension of Python for translating functions to C
- Principle: declare variables with type

#### Declaring variables and annotating the code

Pure Python code:

- Copy this function and put it in a file with .pyx extension.
- Add type of variables:

```
- function(a, b) → cpdef function(int a, double b)
- v = 1.2 → cdef double v = 1.2
- Array declaration: np.ndarray[np.float64_t, ndim=2, mode='c'] u
```

## Cython version of the functions

```
import numpy as np
cimport numpy as np
cimport cython
ctypedef np.float64_t DT
                           # data type
@cython.boundscheck(False) # turn off array bounds check
@cython.wraparound(False) # turn off negative indices
   (u[-1,-1])
cpdef advance(
   np.ndarray[DT, ndim=2, mode='c'] u,
   np.ndarray[DT, ndim=2, mode='c'] u_1,
   np.ndarray[DT, ndim=2, mode='c'] u_2,
   np.ndarray[DT, ndim=2, mode='c'] f,
   double Cx2, double Cy2, double dt2):
   cdef int Nx, Ny, i, j
    cdef double u_xx, u_yy
   Nx = u.shape[0]-1
```

Note: from now in we skip the code for setting boundary values

## Visual inspection of the C translation

See how effective Cython can translate this code to C:

```
Terminal> cython -a wave2D_u0_loop_cy.pyx
```

Load  $wave2D_u0_loop_cy.html$  in a browser (white: pure C, yellow: still Python):

```
| The property second will be considered by the property of th
```

Can click on wave2D\_u0\_loop\_cy.c to see the generated C code...

#### Building the extension module

- Cython code must be translated to C
- C code must be compiled
- Compiled C code must be linked to Python C libraries
- $\bullet$  Result: C extension module ( .so file) that can be loaded as a standard Python module
- Use a setup.py script to build the extension module

```
from distutils.core import setup
from distutils.extension import Extension
from Cython.Distutils import build_ext
```

```
cymodule = 'wave2D_u0_loop_cy'
setup(
  name=cymodule
  ext_modules=[Extension(cymodule, [cymodule + '.pyx'],)],
  cmdclass={'build_ext': build_ext},
)
```

Terminal> python setup.py build\_ext --inplace

## Calling the Cython function from Python

## Efficiency:

- $120 \times 120$  cells in space:
  - Pure Python: 1370 CPU time units
  - Vectorized numpy: 5.5
  - Cython: 1
- $60 \times 60$  cells in space:
  - Pure Python: 1000 CPU time units
  - Vectorized numpy: 6
  - Cython: 1

# Migrating loops to Fortran

- Write the advance function in pure Fortran
- Use f2py to generate C code for calling Fortran from Python
- Full manual control of the translation to Fortran

#### The Fortran subroutine

Note: Cf2py comment declares u as input argument and return value back to Python

#### Building the Fortran module with f2py

f2py changes the argument list (!)

- Array limits have default values
- Examine doc strings from f2py!

### How to avoid array copying

- Two-dimensional arrays are stored row by row in Python and C
- Two-dimensional arrays are stored column by column in Fortran
- f2py takes a copy of a numpy (C) array and transposes it when calling Fortran
- Such copies are time and memory consuming

• Remedy: declare numpy arrays with Fortran storage

```
order = 'Fortran' if version == 'f77' else 'C'
u = zeros((Nx+1,Ny+1), order=order)
u_1 = zeros((Nx+1,Ny+1), order=order)
u_2 = zeros((Nx+1,Ny+1), order=order)
```

Option -DF2PY\_REPORT\_ON\_ARRAY\_COPY=1 makes f2py write out array copying:

```
\label{eq:continuous} \begin{array}{lll} \mbox{Terminal> f2py -c wave2D\_u0\_loop\_f77.pyf --build-dir build\_f77 \\ -\mbox{DF2PY\_REPORT\_ON\_ARRAY\_COPY=1 wave2D\_u0\_loop\_f77.f} \end{array}
```

#### Efficiency of translating to Fortran

- Same efficiency (in this example) as Cython and C
- About 5 times faster than vectorized numpy code
- $\bullet$  > 1000 faster than pure Python code

# Migrating loops to C via Cython

- Write the advance function in pure C
- Use Cython to generate C code for calling C from Python
- Full manual control of the translation to C

#### The C code

- numpy arrays transferred to C are one-dimensional in C
- Need to translate [i,j] indices to single indices

```
dt2*f[idx(i,j)];
}
}
}
```

## The Cython interface file

```
import numpy as np
cimport numpy as np
cimport cython
cdef extern from "wave2D_u0_loop_c.h":
    void advance(double* u, double* u_1, double* u_2, double* f,
                  double Cx2, double Cy2, double dt2,
                  int Nx, int Ny)
@cython.boundscheck(False)
@cython.wraparound(False)
def advance_cwrap(
    np.ndarray[double, ndim=2, mode='c'] u,
    np.ndarray[double, ndim=2, mode='c'] u_1,
    np.ndarray[double, ndim=2, mode='c'] u_2,
np.ndarray[double, ndim=2, mode='c'] f,
    double Cx2, double Cy2, double dt2):
    advance(&u[0,0], &u_1[0,0], &u_2[0,0], &f[0,0],
             Cx2, Cy2, dt2,
             u.shape[0]-1, u.shape[1]-1)
    return u
```

#### Building the extension module

Compile and link the extension module with a setup.py file:

Terminal> python setup.py build\_ext --inplace

In Python:

```
import wave2D_u0_loop_c_cy
advance = wave2D_u0_loop_c_cy.advance_cwrap
```

```
f_a[:,:] = f(xv, yv, t[n])
u = advance(u, u_1, u_2, f_a, Cx2, Cy2, dt2)
```

# Migrating loops to C via f2py

- Write the advance function in pure C
- Use f2py to generate C code for calling C from Python
- Full manual control of the translation to C

### The C code and the Fortran interface file

- Write the C function advance as before
- Write a Fortran 90 module defining the signature of the advance function
- Or: write a Fortran 77 function defining the signature and let f2py generate the Fortran 90 module

Fortran 77 signature (note intent(c)):

```
subroutine advance(u, u_1, u_2, f, Cx2, Cy2, dt2, Nx, Ny)
Cf2py intent(c) advance
   integer Nx, Ny, N
    real*8 u(0:Nx,0:Ny), u_1(0:Nx,0:Ny), u_2(0:Nx,0:Ny)
    real*8 f(0:Nx, 0:Ny), Cx2, Cy2, dt2
Cf2py intent(in, out) u
Cf2py intent(c) u, u_1, u_2, f, Cx2, Cy2, dt2, Nx, Ny
   return
   end
```

### Building the extension module

```
Generate Fortran 90 module (wave2D_u0_loop_c_f2py.pyf):
```

```
\label{eq:continuous} \begin{array}{lll} Terminal> f2py -m \ wave2D\_u0\_loop\_c\_f2py \\ -h \ wave2D\_u0\_loop\_c\_f2py.pyf --overwrite-signature \\ wave2D\_u0\_loop\_c\_f2py\_signature.f \end{array}
```

The compile and build step must list the C files:

```
Terminal> f2py -c wave2D_u0_loop_c_f2py.pyf \
    --build-dir tmp_build_c \
    -DF2PY_REPORT_ON_ARRAY_COPY=1 wave2D_u0_loop_c.c
```

# Migrating loops to C++ via f2py

- C++ can be used as an alternative to C
- C++ code often applies sophisticated arrays
- Challenge: translate from numpy C arrays to C++ array classes
- Can use SWIG to make C++ classes available as Python classes
- Easier (and more efficient):
  - Make C API to the C++ code
  - Wrap C API with f2py
  - Send numpy arrays to C API and let C translate numpy arrays into C++ array classes

# Analysis of the difference equations

# Properties of the solution of the wave equation

$$\frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial t^2} = c^2 \frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial x^2}$$

Solutions:

$$u(x,t) = g_R(x - ct) + g_L(x + ct),$$
 (60)

If u(x, 0) = I(x) and  $u_t(x, 0) = 0$ :

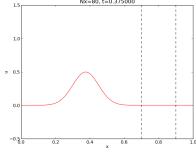
$$u(x,t) = \frac{1}{2}I(x-ct) + \frac{1}{2}I(x+ct)$$
 (61)

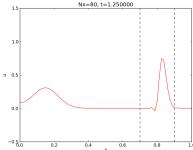
Two waves: one traveling to the right and one to the left

# Demo of the splitting of I(x) into two waves

### Effect of variable wave velocity

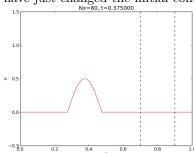
A wave propagates perfectly (C=1) and hits a medium with 1/4 of the wave velocity. A part of the wave is reflected and the rest is transmitted.

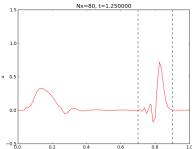




# What happens here?

We have just changed the initial condition...





## Representation of waves as sum of sine/cosine waves

Build I(x) of wave components  $e^{ikx} = \cos kx + i\sin kx$ :

$$I(x) \approx \sum_{k \in K} b_k e^{ikx} \tag{62}$$

- k is the frequency of a component ( $\lambda = 2\pi/k$  corresponding wave length)
- K is some set of all k needed to approximate I(x) well
- $b_k$  must be computed (Fourier coefficients)

Since  $u(x,t) = \frac{1}{2}I(x-ct) + \frac{1}{2}I(x+ct)$ :

$$u(x,t) = \frac{1}{2} \sum_{k \in K} b_k e^{ik(x-ct)} + \frac{1}{2} \sum_{k \in K} b_k e^{ik(x+ct)}$$
(63)

Our interest: one component  $e^{i(kx-\omega t)}$ ,  $\omega=kc$ 

# Analysis of the finite difference scheme

A similar discrete  $u_q^n = e^{i(kx_q - \tilde{\omega}t_n)}$  solves

$$[D_t D_t u = c^2 D_x D_x u]_q^n (64)$$

Note: different frequency  $\tilde{\omega} \neq \omega$ 

- How accurate is  $\tilde{\omega}$  compared to  $\omega$ ?
- What about the wave amplitude?

## Preliminary results

$$[D_t D_t e^{i\omega t}]^n = -\frac{4}{\Delta t^2} \sin^2\left(\frac{\omega \Delta t}{2}\right) e^{i\omega n \Delta t}$$

By  $\omega \to k, \, t \to x, \, n \to q$ ) it follows that

$$[D_x D_x e^{ikx}]_q = -\frac{4}{\Delta x^2} \sin^2\left(\frac{k\Delta x}{2}\right) e^{ikq\Delta x}$$

# Numerical wave propagation (1)

Inserting a basic wave component  $u=e^{i(kx_q-\tilde{\omega}t_n)}$  in the scheme (??) requires computation of

$$[D_t D_t e^{ikx} e^{-i\tilde{\omega}t}]_q^n = [D_t D_t e^{-i\tilde{\omega}t}]^n e^{ikq\Delta x}$$

$$= -\frac{4}{\Delta t^2} \sin^2\left(\frac{\tilde{\omega}\Delta t}{2}\right) e^{-i\tilde{\omega}n\Delta t} e^{ikq\Delta x}$$
(65)

$$[D_x D_x e^{ikx} e^{-i\tilde{\omega}t}]_q^n = [D_x D_x e^{ikx}]_q e^{-i\tilde{\omega}n\Delta t}$$
$$= -\frac{4}{\Delta x^2} \sin^2\left(\frac{k\Delta x}{2}\right) e^{ikq\Delta x} e^{-i\tilde{\omega}n\Delta t}$$
(66)

# Numerical wave propagation (2)

The complete scheme,

$$[D_t D_t e^{ikx} e^{-i\tilde{\omega}t} = c^2 D_x D_x e^{ikx} e^{-i\tilde{\omega}t}]_q^n$$

leads to an equation for  $\tilde{\omega}$ :

$$\sin^2\left(\frac{\tilde{\omega}\Delta t}{2}\right) = C^2 \sin^2\left(\frac{k\Delta x}{2}\right),\tag{67}$$

where  $C = \frac{c\Delta t}{\Delta x}$  is the Courant number

# Numerical wave propagation (3)

Taking the square root of (??):

$$\sin\left(\frac{\tilde{\omega}\Delta t}{2}\right) = C\sin\left(\frac{k\Delta x}{2}\right),\tag{68}$$

- Exact  $\omega$  is real
- Look for a real solution  $\tilde{\omega}$  of (??)
- Then the sine functions are in [-1,1]

• Lef-hand side in [-1,1] requires  $C \leq 1$ 

Stability criterion

$$C = \frac{c\Delta t}{\Delta x} \le 1 \tag{69}$$

# Why $C \leq 1$ is a stability criterion

Assume C > 1. Then

$$\underbrace{\sin\left(\frac{\tilde{\omega}\Delta t}{2}\right)} > 1 = C\sin\left(\frac{k\Delta x}{2}\right)$$

- $|\sin x| > 1$  implies complex x
- Here: complex  $\tilde{\omega} = \tilde{\omega}_r \pm i\tilde{\omega}_i$
- One  $\tilde{\omega}_i < 0$  gives  $\exp(i \cdot i\tilde{\omega}_i) = \exp(\tilde{\omega}_i)$  and exponential growth

### Numerical dispersion relation

- How close is  $\tilde{\omega}$  to  $\omega$ ?
- Can solve for an explicit formula for  $\tilde{\omega}$

$$\tilde{\omega} = \frac{2}{\Delta t} \sin^{-1} \left( C \sin \left( \frac{k \Delta x}{2} \right) \right) \tag{70}$$

- $\omega = kc$  is the analytical dispersion relation
- $\tilde{\omega} = \tilde{\omega}(k, c, \Delta x, \Delta t)$  is the numerical dispersion relation
- Speed of waves:  $c = \omega/k$ ,  $\tilde{c} = \tilde{\omega}/k$
- The numerical wave component has a wrong, mesh-dependent speed

## The special case C=1

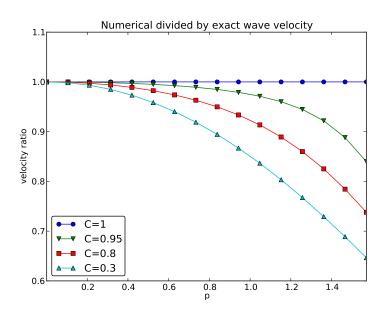
- For C=1,  $\tilde{\omega}=\omega$
- The numerical solution is exact (at the mesh points)!
- $\bullet\,$  The only requirement is constant c

# Computing the error in wave velocity

- Introduce  $p = k\Delta x/2$
- $\bullet$  p measures no of mesh points in space per wave length in space
- Study error in wave velocity through  $\tilde{c}/c$  as function of p

$$r(C, p) = \frac{\tilde{c}}{c} = \frac{1}{Cp} \sin^{-1}(C \sin p), \quad C \in (0, 1], \ p \in (0, \pi/2]$$

## Visualizing the error in wave velocity



Note: the shortest waves have the largest error, and short waves move too slowly.

### Taylor expanding the error in wave velocity

For small p, Taylor expand  $\tilde{\omega}$  as polynomial in p:

```
>> C, p = symbols('C p')
>> rs = r(C, p).series(p, 0, 7)
>> print rs
1 - p**2/6 + p**4/120 - p**6/5040 + C**2*p**2/6 -
C**2*p**4/12 + 13*C**2*p**6/720 + 3*C**4*p**4/40 -
C**4*p**6/16 + 5*C**6*p**6/112 + 0(p**7)
>> # Factorize each term and drop the remainder 0(...) term
```

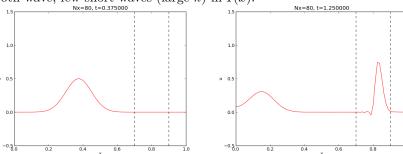
```
>> rs_factored = [factor(term) for term in rs.lseries(p)]
>> rs_factored = sum(rs_factored)
>> print rs_factored
p**6*(C - 1)*(C + 1)*(225*C**4 - 90*C**2 + 1)/5040 +
p**4*(C - 1)*(C + 1)*(3*C - 1)*(3*C + 1)/120 +
p**2*(C - 1)*(C + 1)/6 + 1
```

Leading error term is  $\frac{1}{6}(C^2-1)p^2$  or

$$\frac{1}{6} \left( \frac{k\Delta x}{2} \right)^2 (C^2 - 1) = \frac{k^2}{24} \left( c^2 \Delta t^2 - \Delta x^2 \right) = \mathcal{O}(\Delta t^2, \Delta x^2)$$
 (71)

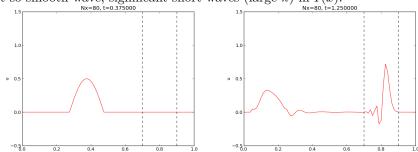
## Example on effect of wrong wave velocity (1)

Smooth wave, few short waves (large k) in I(x):



## Example on effect of wrong wave velocity (1)

Not so smooth wave, significant short waves (large k) in I(x):



## Extending the analysis to 2D (and 3D)

$$u(x, y, t) = g(k_x x + k_y y - \omega t)$$

is a typically solution of

$$u_{tt} = c^2(u_{xx} + u_{yy})$$

Can build solutions by adding complex Fourier components of the form

$$e^{i(k_x x + k_y y - \omega t)}$$

#### Discrete wave components in 2D

$$[D_t D_t u = c^2 (D_x D_x u + D_y D_y u)]_{q,r}^n$$
(72)

This equation admits a Fourier component

$$u_{q\,r}^{n} = e^{i(k_{x}q\Delta x + k_{y}r\Delta y - \tilde{\omega}n\Delta t)} \tag{73}$$

Inserting the expression and using formulas from the 1D analysis:

$$\sin^2\left(\frac{\tilde{\omega}\Delta t}{2}\right) = C_x^2 \sin^2 p_x + C_y^2 \sin^2 p_y,\tag{74}$$

where

$$C_x = \frac{c^2 \Delta t^2}{\Delta x^2}, \quad C_y = \frac{c^2 \Delta t^2}{\Delta y^2}, \quad p_x = \frac{k_x \Delta x}{2}, \quad p_y = \frac{k_y \Delta y}{2}$$

## Stability criterion in 2D

R<br/>real-valued  $\tilde{\omega}$  requires

$$C_x^2 + C_y^2 \le 1 (75)$$

or

$$\Delta t \le \frac{1}{c} \left( \frac{1}{\Delta x^2} + \frac{1}{\Delta y^2} \right)^{-1/2} \tag{76}$$

### Stability criterion in 3D

$$\Delta t \le \frac{1}{c} \left( \frac{1}{\Delta x^2} + \frac{1}{\Delta y^2} + \frac{1}{\Delta z^2} \right)^{-1/2} \tag{77}$$

For  $c^2=c^2(\boldsymbol{x})$  we must use the worst-case value  $\bar{c}=\sqrt{\max_{\boldsymbol{x}\in\Omega}c^2(\boldsymbol{x})}$  and a safety factor  $\beta\leq 1$ :

$$\Delta t \le \beta \frac{1}{\bar{c}} \left( \frac{1}{\Delta x^2} + \frac{1}{\Delta y^2} + \frac{1}{\Delta z^2} \right)^{-1/2} \tag{78}$$

# Numerical dispersion relation in 2D (1)

$$\tilde{\omega} = \frac{2}{\Delta t} \sin^{-1} \left( \left( C_x^2 \sin^2 p_x + C_y^2 \sin_y^p \right)^{\frac{1}{2}} \right)$$

For visualization, introduce  $\theta$ :

$$k_x = k \sin \theta$$
,  $k_y = k \cos \theta$ ,  $p_x = \frac{1}{2}kh \cos \theta$ ,  $p_y = \frac{1}{2}kh \sin \theta$ 

Also:  $\Delta x = \Delta y = h$ . Then  $C_x = C_y = c\Delta t/h \equiv C$ . Now  $\tilde{\omega}$  depends on

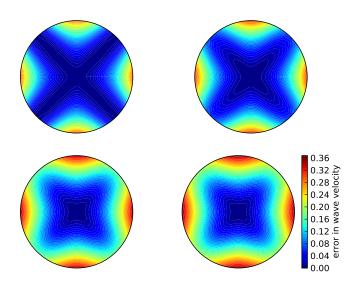
- C reflecting the number cells a wave is displaced during a time step
- $\bullet$  kh reflecting the number of cells per wave length in space
- $\theta$  expressing the direction of the wave

### Numerical dispersion relation in 2D (2)

$$\frac{\tilde{c}}{c} = \frac{1}{Ckh} \sin^{-1} \left( C \left( \sin^2(\frac{1}{2}kh\cos\theta) + \sin^2(\frac{1}{2}kh\sin\theta) \right)^{\frac{1}{2}} \right)$$

Can make color contour plots of  $1 - \tilde{c}/c$  in polar coordinates with  $\theta$  as the angular coordinate and kh as the radial coordinate.

### Numerical dispersion relation in 2D (3)



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